

What is claimed:

1. A method for transferring files between a residential electronics device and a remote server, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing a proxy session with a file transfer protocol (FTP) client of the electronics device over a single connection communications link;

establishing a FTP session with the remote server over a dual connection communications link; and

mapping messages between the FTP session and the proxy session such that the messages are transferred between the electronics device and the remote server.

2. The method of claim 1 further including the steps of:

defining a proxy messaging structure for the proxy session;

converting incoming FTP messages received from the FTP server into outgoing proxy messages having the proxy messaging structure; and

converting incoming proxy messages received from the FTP client into outgoing FTP messages, wherein the incoming proxy messages have the proxy messaging structure.

3. The method of claim 2 further including the step of:

defining a shared messaging structure for the proxy session such that each proxy message includes a shared message having a control field and a data field;

said control field containing control content for a corresponding FTP message;

said data field containing data content for the corresponding FTP message.

4. The method of claim 3 further including the step of defining the control field as being a message header of the shared message.

5. The method of claim 3 further including the step of defining the data field as being a message body of the shared message.

6. The method of claim 3 further including the step of defining the data field of the shared message to be empty when there is no data content for the corresponding FTP message.

7. The method of claim 2 further including the step of:  
defining a dedicated messaging structure for the proxy session such that each FTP message maps to a dedicated control message;  
said dedicated control message containing control content for the FTP message.

8. The method of claim 7 further including the step of mapping the FTP message to a dedicated data message such that the dedicated data message contains data content for the FTP message.

9. The method of claim 2 further including the step of defining a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) messaging structure for the proxy session such that each FTP message maps to an HTTP message.

10. The method of claim 1 further including the step of registering a web proxy functional component module (FCM) with a home network including the FTP client.

11. The method of claim 10 further including the steps of:  
receiving a network query for the web proxy FCM from the FTP client; and  
activating a web agent for the FTP client.

12. The method of claim 10 further including the steps of:  
establishing a control connection between the web proxy FCM and the remote server;  
establishing a data connection between the web proxy and the remote server; and  
said web proxy being remotely located from the electronics device.

13. A method for mapping messages between a file transfer protocol (FTP) session and a proxy session, the method comprising the steps of:

defining a proxy messaging structure for the proxy session;

converting incoming FTP messages received from a FTP server into outgoing proxy messages having the proxy messaging structure; and

converting incoming proxy messages received from a FTP client into outgoing FTP messages, wherein the incoming proxy messages have the proxy messaging structure.

14. The method of claim 13 further including the step of:

defining a shared messaging structure for the proxy session such that each proxy message includes a shared message having a control field and a data field;

said control field containing control content for a corresponding FTP message;

said data field containing data content for the corresponding FTP message.

15. The method of claim 14 further including the step of defining the control field as being a message header of the shared message.

16. The method of claim 14 further including the step of defining the data field as being a message body of the shared message.

17. The method of claim 13 further including the step of:

defining a dedicated messaging structure for the proxy session such that each FTP message maps to a dedicated control message;

said dedicated control message containing control content for the FTP message.

18. The method of claim 17 further including the step of:

mapping the FTP message to a dedicated data message;

said dedicated data message containing data content for the FTP message.

19. The method of claim 13 further including the step of defining a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) messaging structure for the proxy session such that each FTP message maps to an HTTP message.

20. A residential networking architecture comprising:

an electronics device having a file transfer protocol (FTP) client;

a web proxy functional component module (FCM) for maintaining a proxy session with the FTP client, the web proxy FCM further maintaining a file transfer protocol (FTP) session with a remote server over a dual connection communications link; and

a serial bus network for providing a single communications link between the FTP client and the web proxy FCM.

21. The networking architecture of claim 20 wherein the web proxy FCM includes:

a lookup table containing a table of active web agents;

a server module for maintaining the lookup table; and

a helper module using the lookup table to generate responses to messages received from the proxy session and the FTP session.

22. The networking architecture of claim 21 wherein the FCM further includes a listening module, the listening module for receiving messages from the proxy session and the FTP session.

23. The networking architecture of claim 21 wherein the FCM further includes an identification module for allocating and de-allocating client identifiers.

24. The networking architecture of claim 20 wherein the electronics device is a digital video disk machine.

25. The networking architecture of claim 20 wherein the electronics device is a camcorder.

26. The networking architecture of claim 20 wherein the electronics device is a microwave.